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 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

25X1A

COUNTRY Austria

DATE DISTR. 1 September 1949

SUBJECT Preparations of the Communist Party of Austria
for a Coup d'Etat in Austria

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE
ACQUIRED [REDACTED]NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF IN [REDACTED]

25X1A

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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1. In a conference on their situation held in VIENNA by the Communist Party of Austria (KPOe) on 1 July 1949, KPOe leader HONNER stated:

a. With regard to the conclusion of the state treaty, the KPOe is interested only in the withdrawal of the occupation troops, as the time will then have become ripe for a coup d'etat. This will take about one year. Up to then the fighting power of the KPOe in Styria, Upper Austria, Salzburg and the Tyrol should be brought to the same high level as has been reached in Lower Austria. Carinthia constitutes an exception as the KPOe has a powerful ally in the Slovene minority.

b. HONNER urged the KPOe chairmen of the Western Zones to establish close contact with the former fighters for liberation, the former "Schutzbund" members, and the Slovene Communists. In the future the Central Committee of the KPOe would exert its greatest effort in the US and British Zones of Austria.

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DDA Memo, 1 Apr 77

Auth: DDA REG. 77/1782

Date: 7 MAY 1978 By: 24

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